

Message Text

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ATT: IOR/M, IPS, IBS, RIM, ILA

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR BR PN UNSC

SUBJECT: DAILY MEDIA REACTION REPORT -- PART TWO

REF: USIA CIRCULAR 4488

STATE 048977

1. PROMINENT MEDIA PLAY CONTINUUES ON UNSC PANAMA MEETING. TV GLOBO NETWORK'S MARCH 21 LATE EVENING NEWSCAST "JORNAL INTERNATIONAL" REPORTED U. S. VETO ON UNSC RESOLUTION. SANDRA PASSARINHO, TV GLOBO SPECIAL REPORTER IN PANAMA, SAID "THE VETO, ALTHOUGH EXPECTED, PUT THE U. S. IN A VERY AWKWARD POSITION BEFORE THE THIRD- WORLD NATIONS. IN ADDITION TO THAT, OBSERVERS CONSIDER IT AS REPRESENTING AN UNABLE FAILURE OF U. S. DIPLOMACY." SAMPLE NEWSPAPER FRONT-PAGE HEADLINE: INFLUENTIAL O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO: "THE U. S. USES VETO AGAINST PANAMA" (MARCH 22). SAMPLE COVERAGE:

2. MODERATE JORNAL DO COMMERCIO (RIO) SAYS: "THE U. S. MADE A REAL ITS (VETO) THREAT. ... THE MEETING DECIDED NOTHING ABOUT PANAMA'S
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SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE CANAL ZONE. ... AS EVERYBODY KNOWS, A ' CONSENSUS' OF THE UNSC MUST BE ACCEPTED BY ALL OF ITS MEMBERS. WHAT HAS HAPPENED IS EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE. WHO WILL SUFFER THE GREATER LOSS IN ALL OF THIS? THE U. S., ... WHICH FINDS ITSELF EVEN MORE ISOLATED FROM THE LATAM COUNTRIES? OR PANAMA, WHICH IN VIEW OF THE EVENTS CANNOT FORESEE WHEN IT MIGHT HAVE CONTROL OVER THE CANAL AND ITS NATURAL RESOURCES? OBSERVERS SAY THAT ONE CAN ONLY WAIT AND SEE -- AND SEE PERHAPS A ' DRAMATIC OUTCOME.' ..." (MARCH 22).

3. CONSERVATIVE JORNAL DA TARDE (SAO PAULO) EDITORIAL SAYS: "... PANAM A' S INTEREST IN RESOLVING THE (CANAL ZONE) PROBLEM IS PERFECTLY UNDERSTANDABLE. ... WHAT IS INCOMPREHENSIBLE IS THE U. S. POSITION. ... IN VIETNAM, AN AREA WITH INCOMPARABLY GREATER STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE FOR THE WESTERN WORLD' S SECURITY, THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT SHOWS A WILLINGNESS TO SIGN AGREEMENTS SUCH AS THAT OF NIXON' S ' PEACE' WITH HONOR -- MAKING ALL MANNER OF CONCESSIONS TO THE COMMUNISTS, WHILE IN PANAMA THE U. S. ADOPTS AN INEXPLICABLE INTRANSIGENCY WHICH SHOWS THAT THE U. S. IS UNAWARE ITS ATTITUDE SERVERS TO MAINTAIN AN ANTI- AMERICAN FOCLA POINT IN OUR HEMISPHERE. THIS DEMONSTRATES -- DESPITE ALL PROCLAMATIONS TO THE COBTRARY -- THE STANDARDS THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO USE WHEN DEALING WITH LATAM. ..." (MARCH 21).
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